TL 1414

Luis Paulo,

I just got information from Estevao Cabral who had a long phone-call with his contacts in Jakarta.

2 items follow. Please let me know if you do anything to check re. the man killed in Same. — Carmel

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Attention Steve Alston/CAFOD, Geoff Robinson, Asia Research, Amnesty International. ③ CDPM/Lisbon.

From Carmel/TAPOL, 7 September

Information about the killing of a foreign in East Timor in August 1990:

Sources in East Timor report that on 15 August, a man believed to be a foreign journalist (according to some sources, a Briton), was stabbed to death by Indonesian soldiers when he was caught taking photographs of an army post in Same. A foreign woman who was at the scene ran off as the man was being attacked and was shot in the foot. It is not known whether the woman was there in the man's company or was there independently. She was taken to Dili and is now said to be in the military hospital in Dili. The same sources also say that nurses at the hospital confirm that a foreign woman is under treatment at the hospital.

Moises da Costa, a local official of the customs and excise department in Same, witnessed the attack on the foreigner and told others in the area. He soon began to fear for his own safety and decided to leave East Timor for Jakarta, planning to travel by air from Kupang. However, on his arrival in Kupang he was caught and taken handcuffed to Dili on 23 August. Nothing is known about his present whereabouts.

[This story which comes from East Timor sources in Jakarta has also, according to Alfredo/Fretilin in Darwin, been confirmed by East Timorese from Darwin who have recently returned from a trip to Dili.]

Possible action to track down the victims of this attack. A first move should be to seek clarification from the ICRC in Dili about the presence of the woman in hospital.

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CDPM

(Provisional report about 4 Sept Demo in Dili, for TAPOL Bulletin No 101:

Another demonstration in Dili

On 4 September, hundreds of East Timorese again demonstrated in favour of independence. They unfurled banners saying, "Independence for East Timor!", "Long Live Fretilin!", "Long Live the Maubere People" and "Long Live Xanana!" The demonstration occurred at the end of a Catholic Mass in Lecideri on the outskirts of Dili, held to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Dili Diocese. A number of important dignitaries were present, including Mgr Canallini, the Apostolic Nuncio in Jakarta, Bishop Belo, head of the diocese, 'provincial' governor Mario Carascalao and many military and non-military officials.

As the Mass drew to a close at 5.30 pm, the demonstrators began their action, with the support of many people among the more than 20,000 people attending the Mass. The demonstrators made a determined effort to press Mgr Canallini to make a statement clarifying the Vatican's stand on the position of East Timor. [There are strong rumours circulating in East Timor that the Vatican may shortly switch its position and support East Timor's integration into Indonesia.] The demonstration continued for about half an hour during which time Governor Carascalao prevailed on the police not to make any arrests.

When Mgr Canallini left the scene at about 6.00 pm, the demonstrators left in defiant mood. On their way home, many scuffles broke out between demonstrators and Indonesians whom they encountered on the streets. When troops arrived to push the demonstrators back, they were pelted with stones.

In several places, the demonstrators continued their anti-Indonesia activities after reaching their homes until late that night, attacking Indonesians in the vicinity and mocking them with the words, "Kapan pulang?" ["When are you going home?"]

Arrests

On 6 September, a number of arrests were made. As yet only one name has been received, Evaristo Menzes.